

# SAMPLE JOURNAL ENTRIES

**Directions:** Use these samples as models while you write your journal entries—from both your HOME IDENTITY and your FIELD ARMY IDENTITY perspectives.

1861  
Home  
Identity

April 19, 1861

My pen is heavy as I write this morning. Getting to sleep last night was extremely difficult, for I had spent an hour conversing with my friend Robert E. Lee at his estate just west of Washington. The raw-boned new Yankee president offered my friend command of all the armies of the United States a few days earlier. Then for long, long days Lee had agonized. As a West Point graduate he felt he owed his loyalty to his nation, but he was torn frightfully by what he considered a greater loyalty. He looked at me sadly and commented, "How could I draw my sword against Virginia." Oh, how I fear

*The human detail  
is touching ...*

1862  
Army  
Identity

August 25, 1862

Them Rebs is somethin I never dreamed we Union prisoners would get them to play a baseball game with us I've been friendly with some of the guards because they notice Billy and me can really play this wonderful game they argooed with us sayin they could beat our Yankee butts I said they was damn fools to think they could beat us at our game so we had a game right soon and I had made for our game of Massachewsutts men against those Pennsylvaneans I tried to help them Rebs but soon figered out they needed somethin to help them catch the hard ball Billy yelled that Rebs had bricks for hands and a mean fight brok out I been thinkin it would be neat to make gloves and better balls if Billy and I serve this hell hole prison camp we should start some kind of a baseball companee we could make hand gloves

*Notice how the student writer  
anticipated the future ...*